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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,180	09/29/2003	Tohru Tachibana	JP920020179US1	1943
25259 RSW IP Law IBM CORPORATION 3039 CORNWALLIS RD. DEPT. T81 / B503, PO BOX 12195 RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709	7590 01/05/2011			
EXAMINER AUGUSTINE, NICHOLAS				
ART UNIT 2179		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 01/05/2011		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

RSWIPLAW@us.ibm.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/674,180

Applicant(s)

TACHIBANA ET AL.

Examiner

NICHOLAS AUGUSTINE

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09/02/2010.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-944)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

- A. This action is in response to the following communications: Supplemental Appeal Brief filed 09/02/2010.
- B. Claims 1 and 3-14 remains pending.
-

1. In view of the Supplemental Appeal Brief filed on 09/02/2010, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

- (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
- (2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below:

/Stephen S. Hong/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2178

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1 and 3-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida, Shoichi (US 2002/0032739 A1), herein referred to as "Iida" in view of Hopson, David B. (US Pub 2004/0068443 A1), herein referred to as "Hopson".

As for independent claims 1, 10, 11, 13 and 14, Iida teaches an information terminal and corresponding product, apparatus, system and medium (par.44-45; medium, server, client, software/hardware combinations, etc...) which displays input pages downloaded from a server via a network, and which transmits, using the network,

information entered into the input pages by a user, said information terminal (par.2, figure 1) comprising: a page display section for displaying a plurality of input pages using a browser executed by the information terminal (figure 4,5,6 and par.44, lines 5-10); and an input information transmission section for transmitting the plurality of input parameters in response to an instruction (par.46, lines 1-5); and a page reception section (figure 2) for receiving the input pages and for associating the input pages with package identification information(par.30, 35; plurality of emails in a email list each item in list pertaining to a unique email message from recipients), wherein the input pages enable a user to enter the plurality of input parameters and further

lida does not specially teach that the storage section 9 is capable of storing input parameters entered by a user into more than one input page; an input information transmission section that combines and transmits the combined input parameters to the server.

However in the same field of endeavor **Hopson teaches** an input information storage section for storing a plurality of input parameters entered by a user into more than one of the input pages (par.29,31 and 32 describe an "order database" used to store customer orders); wherein the input information transmission section combines the input parameters entered into the input pages of a package and transmits the combined input parameters to the server (par.46, lines 1-2 and par.49 describe the user as a customer whom views a plurality of items and services through a plurality of pages; par. 57 describes the customer selecting multiple items and adding additional input per item at the last sentence of the paragraph; par. 58 describes that the user initiates a

checkout procedure which will display at least a cart page (displaying all items and services selected with added comments from user) an address page (displaying customers address and the ability to edit information) and a payment page (displaying input for the user to enter payment information); par. 61 describes that the order is submitted and stored remotely on the order database of the server and then sent to a dispatcher computer separate from order database for further processing of the order).

Further Hopson also teaches a page display section for displaying a plurality of input pages using a browser executed by the information terminal (par.46 and 49; user browses items and services available); and an input information transmission section for transmitting the plurality of input parameters in response to an instruction (par.57,58,61); and a page reception section for receiving the input pages and for associating the input pages with package identification information (par.31-32, 38, 40, 47, 61; teaches customer information stored on database relating to identity of order submitted, customer identity, picker identification for the order, driver identity, etc...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Hopson into lida, this is true because Hopson teaches how a user can enter text and transmit to a remote location (par.57; user enters text par.61 text is transmitted along with other information to server); lida is also concerned with the transmission of text entered (par.2 and 12). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize the variant option of Hopson of how to store and send data to be implemented into lida's system for better efficiency.

As for claim 3, lida teaches further comprising a page reception section for receiving the input pages and for associating the input pages with package identification information (figure 4; of course those skilled in the art will appreciate the network (figure 2) involved in sending and receiving the transmission that a pop, tcp/ip protocol with an ip address from DHCP and default gateway all in which act as well as a ID of the package being sent to the user with the portable terminal makeup for a unique id corresponding to the system), wherein the input pages enable a user to enter the plurality of input parameters (figure 4, wherein the user can input at the bottom of the page and figure 5 wherein the user has a plurality of pages to input to), and further wherein the input information transmission section combines the input parameters entered into the input pages of a package and transmits the combined input parameters to the server (par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6);

wherein the input information storage section associates input identification information for identifying input information of a package with the input parameters (note the above analysis wherein the user sending the information is providing a unique id to the gateway server, also note that par.46, that if the gateway sever is ordering the data from the pull off function that an algorithm much to the use of those skills in the art is being utilities to be the order of strings being sent to the gateway server), and wherein the input information transmission section selects and combines input parameters entered into the input pages of a package and which are associated with the same input identification information from among the input parameters stored in the input

information storage section, and transmits the resulting combination as the input information (note the above analysis, and (par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6)

As for claim 4, lida teaches wherein the input information transmission section combines the input parameters and transmits the combination after all of the input parameters of a package have been stored in the input information storage section (par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6; wherein the memory unit 9 of figure 2, is utilized as those skilled in the art will appreciate the effectiveness of having memory unit on said device).

As for claim 5, lida teaches further comprising a page storage section for storing the input pages and associating the plurality of input pages with package identification information; wherein the page reception section receives the input pages and associates the input pages with information for identifying a display order; and further wherein the page display section displays a selected input page stored in the page storage section, and then, responsive to receiving an indication that entry of input into the selected input page is complete, displays the input page that is next according to the display order (figure 4,5,6 and par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6; also note the above claims 1,3-4 analysis).

As for claim 6, lida teaches wherein the page reception section receives destination information for identifying a return destination of the input information, and associates

the destination information with package identification information; and the input information transmission section selects and combines a plurality of input parameters of a package from the information storage section, and transmits the resulting combination to the return destination identified by the destination information associated with the package (par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6)

As for claim 7, lida teaches further comprising: an input information display section for displaying input parameters stored in the input information storage section; and a selection section for enabling the user to select input information to be transmitted; wherein the input information transmission section transmits the selected input information (figure 5 and par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6).

As for claim 8, lida teaches further comprising an online detection section for determining whether the information terminal can communicate with an external apparatus, wherein the input information transmission section transmits the combined input parameters responsive to a determination of whether the information terminal can communicate with the external apparatus (par.50; wherein those skilled in the art will appreciate the an acceptance control module needs to be in communication with a network in order to receive packet information).

As for claim 9, lida teaches further comprising: a return information storage section for associating return information from a server which has received the combined input

parameters with information for identifying the server and storing the return information; and a return information display section for displaying the return information responsive to an instruction to display the return information (par.46, lines 5-9 and par.56, lines 4-6 and par.50; control code for restricting the data).

As for independent claim 12, lida teaches 12. A method of communication between a server which stores a plurality of input pages and an information terminal which accepts a user's input entered using more than one of the input pages (note analysis of claim 1), comprising the steps of: transmitting a plurality of input pages from a server to an information terminal in response to a request from the information terminal; receiving the input pages by the information terminal (note analysis of dependent claims 2-9); displaying the input pages using a browser executed on the information terminal (note the analysis of claim 1); storing, in a memory of the information terminal, a plurality of input parameters entered using more than one of the input pages (note the analysis of claim 1); combining the stored input parameters according to package identification information (note the analysis of dependent claims 2-9); and transmitting the combined input parameters from the information terminal to the server in response to an instruction (note the analysis of claim 1).

lida does not specially teach that the storage section 9 is capable of storing input parameters entered by a user into more than one input page; an input information transmission section that combines and transmits the combined input parameters to the server.

However in the same field of endeavor **Hopson teaches** an input information storage section for storing a plurality of input parameters entered by a user into more than one of the input pages (par.29,31 and 32 describe an "order database" used to store customer orders); wherein the input information transmission section combines the input parameters entered into the input pages of a package and transmits the combined input parameters to the server (par.46, lines 1-2 and par.49 describe the user as a customer whom views a plurality of items and services through a plurality of pages; par. 57 describes the customer selecting multiple items and adding additional input per item at the last sentence of the paragraph; par. 58 describes that the user initiates a checkout procedure which will display at least a cart page (displaying all items and services selected with added comments from user) an address page (displaying customers address and the ability to edit information) and a payment page (displaying input for the user to enter payment information); par. 61 describes that the order is submitted and stored remotely on the order database of the server and then sent to a dispatcher computer separate from order database for further processing of the order).

Further Hopson also teaches a page display section for displaying a plurality of input pages using a browser executed by the information terminal (par.46 and 49; user browses items and services available); and an input information transmission section for transmitting the plurality of input parameters in response to an instruction (par.57,58,61); and a page reception section for receiving the input pages and for associating the input pages with package identification information (par.31-32, 61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Hopson into lida, this is true because Hopson teaches how a user can enter text and transmit to a remote location (par.57; user enters text par.61 text is transmitted along with other information to server); lida is also concerned with the transmission of text entered (par.2 and 12). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize the variant option of Hopson of how to store and send data to be implemented into lida's system for better efficiency.

(Note :) It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006, 1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Augustine whose telephone number is 571-270-1056 and fax is 571-270-2056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 9:30am- 5:00pm Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen S. Hong/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2178

/Nicholas Augustine/
Examiner
Art Unit 2179
December 29, 2010